

Applicants respectfully traverse. However, as noted in Section 2.11 above, a submission under 37 C. F. R. § 1.131 is sufficient to remove Ripamonti *et al.* as prior art. Applicants again appreciate the patience of the Examiner in providing the required submission to remove the reference.

2.13 ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER.

Re: Item 15 of the Action:

The Action indicates claim 11 and 18 are allowable.

The typographical error in claim 19 has been corrected; Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that this claim is also now allowable, as is claim 20, which depends from it.

Claim 8 has been re-written in independent form, including the limitations of claim 1, from which it originally depended. Applicants appreciate the Examiner's finding that present claim 8 is therefore also allowable.

Likewise, claim 9 has been re-written in independent form, including the limitations of claim 1, from which it originally depended. Applicants concur with the Examiner's indication that present claims 9 and 10 now are also now allowable.

As a result, claims 8-11 and 18-20 are allowable.

3.0 CONCLUSION

Applicants believe the present paper to be a fully responsive and timely-filed paper following issuance of the instant Action. Applicants further believe that the issues raised and the concerns expressed by the Examiner have been dealt with herein, and that sufficient reasoning

and argument has been provided to overcome the outstanding rejections and to advance the case to a timely allowance.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (713) 934-4084 with any questions, comments, or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: November 15, 2004



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AGENT FOR APPLICANTS

1.2 IN THE DRAWINGS:

Enclosed herewith are corrected drawings for Figures 13A, 13B, 15A, 15B, 19C and 19D as required by the Examiner with changes indicated as follows:

In Figures 13A and 13B, the misspelling of "Sialidase" has been corrected;

In Figures 15A and 15B, the required SEQ ID NO:’s have been added to properly identify sequences in the sequence listing; and

Figures 19C and 19D have been re-numbered as Figures 19B and 19C.